## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 AGR-05 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 USIA-06 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 IO-13 LAB-04 NSAE-00 OIC-02 EPG-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEA-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15 /099 W -------130859Z 045850 /10

P R 130800Z JUN 77 FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8569 INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL USLO PEKING AMCONGEN HONG KONG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, UNCTAD, JA

SUBJECT: FIRST UNCTAD PREPARATORY CONFERENCE ON COTTON, JUNE 20-24

**REF: STATE 119870** 

1. THOUGH GOJ HAS NOT RECEIVED A FINAL POSITION ON REFTEL QUESTIONS, MITI AND MOFA OFFICIALS HAVE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

A. GOJ WILL BE REPRESENTED BY OFFICIALS FROM MOFA (ECON. BUREAU) AND MITI (CONSUMER GOODS BUREAU), WITH DELEGATION HEAD DRAWN FROM THEIR MISSION IN GENEVA. B. MOFA AND MITI REPS. NOTED THAT JAPAN, AS THE WORLD'S LARGEST IMPORTER OF COTTON, IS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE TO THE ISSUE OF PRICE STABILIZATION. GOJ HAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE TO A PRICE STABILIZATION AGREEMENT, AND WOULD NOT OPPOSE THE FORMATION OF AN EXPERT COMMITTEE TO WORK ON THIS PROBLEM. GOJ REPS DID EXPRESS STRONG RESERVATIONS ON THE PRACTICALITY OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A BUFFER STOCK FOR COTTON, BUT OTHERWISE WANT TO KEEP THEIR OPTIONS OPEN.

C. GOJ SUPPORTS THE CONTINUATION OF THE ICAC AS A FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSIONS, AND FEELS THAT THE COMING CONFERENCE SHOULD "RESPECT" THE ICAC'S EXPERTISE.

- 2. EMBOFF CONVEYED INFORMATION CONTAINED IN PARA 3 OF REFTEL. AFTER NOTING THEIR UNDERSTANDING THE THE US AND USSR ALSO HAVE A NEGATIVE POSITION ON THE BUFFER STOCK ISSUE, GOJ REPS. REQUESTED MORE INFORMATION ON US POSITION ALONG LINES OF QUESTION B IN REFTEL. IN PARTICULAR, THEY WANT TO KNOW WHETHER US INDUSTRY OPPOSITION TO INTERNATIONAL STABILIZATION OF COTTON PRICES PRECLUDES USG INTEREST IN AN EXPERT COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER THIS PROBLEM AT GREATER LENGTH.
- 3. COMMENT: WHILE GOJ REPS DID ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR CONCERN OVER THE GROWING IMPORTANCE OF LDC SUPPLIERS, WE DID NOT GET THE IMPRESSION THAT THEIR POSITION ON THE UNCTAD CONFERENCE, TO THE EXTENT THAT THEY HAVE ONE, DIFFERS FROM OURS IN ANY PRESSING WAY.
  THE JAPANESE ATTITUDE SEEMS TO BE PRIMARILY ONE OF "WAIT AND SEE".
  MANSFIELD

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a **Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: COTTON, MEETINGS, PRICES

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 13-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Subject: FIRST UNCTAD PREPARATORY CONFERENCE ON COTTON, JUNE 20-24

TAGS: ETRD, OCON, JA, UNCTAD

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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